

UK players on SEC Media Day: Out to prove doubters wrong

Sports, 1C

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Addiction tales one tool for advisers

Individual approach needed for prevention

Matthew Glowicki
Louisville Courier Journal
USA TODAY NETWORK

A Way Forward: *The Courier Journal has been at the forefront of exposing Kentucky's pervasive and changing addiction epidemic, which in many ways is worse than in other parts of the country. Now, as we continue to dive into the human toll, we're looking at the most effective ways to curb the problem. Find out more at courierjournal.com/awayforward.*

Microphone in hand, Forest Quillen paces in front of high school students in a T-shirt and shorts, a backward baseball cap on his head.

He tells them about drinking and popping pills as a teen, shooting heroin in jail in his early 20s and winding up in a Christian-based recovery center. He stresses that students have the power to overcome adversity and use what they learn to help others.

The 26-year-old, nearly four years into sobriety, estimates he's presented in more than 100 high schools. Some students are moved to tears. Others approach him after he speaks and share some of the deepest, terrible things in their lives.

Sharing addiction stories in health classes and gymnasium assemblies is a widely used approach to preventing drug use among youth.

But while stories may resonate with kids and even inspire them to share their own struggles, experts say there's little research showing testimonials, on their own, help students

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State's delegation split on summit



President Donald Trump and Russian President Vladimir Putin take questions Monday in Helsinki. ANATOLY MALTSEV, EPA-EFE

Thomas Novelly
Louisville Courier Journal
USA TODAY NETWORK

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell and several other Kentucky representatives said they agree that Russia interfered in the 2016 presidential election, breaking with President Donald Trump's comments after his friendly meeting with Vladimir Putin.

"As I've said repeatedly, the Russians are not our friends and I entirely agree with the assessment of our intelligence community," McConnell said in a statement to the Courier Journal on Monday.

Trump received immediate backlash from politicians on both sides of the aisle when he met with Russian President Putin. During the meeting, he accepted Putin's claim that the Russians did not interfere, contradicting the U.S. intelligence community's research.

"The role of the Intelligence Community is to provide the best information and fact-based assessments possible for the President and policymakers," Director of National Intelligence Dan Coats said in a statement to USA TODAY. "We have been clear in our assessments of Russian meddling in the 2016 election and their ongoing,

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USA TODAY

Allies get assailed; Russia gets respect

Trump accepts Putin's denials on election interference after a European tour that left Germany, Britain and NATO allies stinging. **1B**

Cabinet's Johnson says she was harassed

State rejected claims by ex-social services chief

Deborah Yetter
Louisville Courier Journal
USA TODAY NETWORK

The state's former top social services official says a colleague sexually harassed her and she was discriminated against at the Cabinet for Health and Family Services, allegations the cabinet says are unsubstantiated.

Adria Johnson, who resigned June 4, made the allegations in her resignation letter and a subsequent June 11 letter from her lawyer, Thomas Clay, according to copies of the documents the Courier Journal obtained through an open records request.

State officials conducted an internal investigation of the matter and did not substantiate any of the findings in a one-month review that was concluded by July 3, according to heavily redacted records the cabinet provided.

Johnson, a well-regarded social services professional, had served as commissioner about 2½ years before abruptly resigning last month.

It is impossible to identify the male colleague Johnson says harassed her or establish many other details of the investigation because the records the cabinet released blacked out names, titles, and locations of events – even seemingly minor details, such as how long a subject of the investigation had been married.

At one point, in denying claims he had expressed interest in a sexual relationship with Johnson, the unidentified male colleague told investigators "he had been married (redacted) years and had never cheated on his wife."

The male colleague is identified only as someone who worked closely with Johnson. His name, as well as the names of 12 other cabinet employees interviewed, are blacked out.

In a letter to the Courier Journal, the agency's lawyer, Johann Herklotz, said the names of state employees and other

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USA TODAY

Soviet-era nerve agent contained in perfume bottle, British victim's relative says. **1B**

Faulkner gallery awaits opening

Construction coming to an end at new Smoketown location. **Metro, 3A**

Weather

High 89° ▮ Low 66°
Some sun. Forecast, **2A**

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